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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/628,672	07/28/2003	Giovanni Gambini	163-502	7107

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EXAMINER

PRONE, JASON D

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3724

DATE MAILED: 07/01/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/628,672

Applicant(s)

GAMBINI, GIOVANNI

Examiner

Jason Prone

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 5 November 2003.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

2. Claims 2 and 3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention. It is unclear what structure allows the portal (26) to move along guides (27). It is also unclear what structure allows guides (27) to guide the portal. The specification does not provide any description of how the portal moves along the guides and the Figures only show the portal mounted on a top surface.

3. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

4. Claims 2 and 3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.
5. In regards to claim 2, the phrase "a portal structure which can be displaced forwards and/or backwards with respect to said bed" is unclear. It is uncertain what structure allows the portal to be displaced.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

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6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claims 1 and 4-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over EP 1136205 in view of Pulver et al. EP 1136205 discloses the invention including a bed (20) onto which at least two logs (15) are fed through a conveyor (12) with thrusters (13) toward a cutting head (32), that the conveyor with thrusters passes below the cutting head (Fig. 2), that the cutting device act transversally on the at least two logs separating an equal number of finished rolls of a predetermined length (Fig. 1), that the conveyor with thrusters is actuated by a stepper motor (19), and that the at least two logs are arranged in channel in which thrusters are inserted (17) but fails to disclose that the cutting device uses high-pressure water and that the cutting device comprises a cutting nozzle arranged on an arm rotating around a pin arranged on a portal structure. Pulver et al. teaches a cutting device that uses high-pressure water (130) and that the cutting device comprises a cutting nozzle (138) arranged on an arm (132) rotating around a pin arranged on a portal structure (133). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time of the invention, to have provided EP 1136205 with high-pressure water cutting device, as taught by Pulver et al., to allow for a more precise cutting apparatus.

8. Claims 2 and 3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over EP 1136205 in view of Pulver et al. as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of

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Erickson et al. EP 1136205 and Pulver et al. disclose the invention including that the cutting device mounted on a portal structure (102) comprises a cutting nozzle connected through a duct to a high-pressure water source (151 in Pulver et al.) but fails to disclose that the portal structure can be displaced forwards and backwards with respect to the bed. Erickson et al. teaches a portal structure that can be displaced forwards and backwards with respect to the bed (20, 22, and 24). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time of the invention, to have provided EP 1136205 in view of Pulver et al. with a movable portal structure, as taught by Erickson et al., to allow the cutter to change the cutting position.

Conclusion

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Chelborg et al., Gerdes, Squicciarini, Nasu, Lobash et al., Lapeyre, Rudy, Klingel, Caspar, and Gambini.

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jason Prone whose telephone number is 703-605-4287. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30-5:00, Mon - (every other) Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Allan N. Shoap can be reached on 703-308-1082. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

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Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



JP
June 22, 2004



Allan N. Shoap
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